

MONTHLY CROP-WEATHER

Released: FEBRUARY 28, 2006
Issue No. CW-08-06



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USDA, NASS, MINNESOTA FIELD OFFICE, IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
TWIN CITIES INT'L AIRPORT, UNIV. OF MINN. EXTENSION SERVICE, STATE CLIMATOLOGY, FSA, NRCS, AND DNR

The following comments are from Minnesota's County Extension Educators, FSA (USDA - Farm Service Agency), and NRCS (USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service) Offices

AITKIN: Little unharvested corn. Livestock conditions are good. Feed availability is good. Snow cover is 6-8 inches.

HUBBARD: The amount of unharvested corn remains the same as last month with 2000-2500 acres unharvested. Livestock conditions remain good with adequate feed supplies. Snow cover remains at nearly 12 inches over most of the county.

ITASCA: Surplus hay in the area. Eight to ten inches of snow in most fields. Calving just starting.

JACKSON: It has been a mild to average month for temperatures and precipitation. We have little to no snow cover in the fields.

KITTSO: Adequate livestock feed supply available. Calving season underway. Good snow cover in fields. NWS predicting moderate flooding. Many producers attempting to restructure debts resulting from 2005 disaster. High interest in FSA emergency loan program.

MAHNOMEN: Livestock in good condition. Plenty of feed. Good snow cover, 12-18 inches over most areas. Some concern about winter kill in alfalfa due to the early winter ice storm.

MARTIN: February brought us our coldest weather so far this winter with some below zero temperatures. Very good feed supply. Two inches of snow cover. No unharvested corn left, as January weather allowed those fields to be harvested.

MORRISON: Livestock conditions are very good with average temperatures and dry weather for the most part. Only 4-8 inches of snow cover with much less in open areas. Some concern with alfalfa freeze out in open areas where snow cover is minimal.

MURRAY-PIPESTONE: Very little snow cover. Fields still open to grazing cattle, although not much left to eat. Very little unharvested corn, except in a few extremely wet areas.

NICOLLET: Snow cover is very spotty. No unharvested crops. Livestock in good condition, with feed supplies excellent. Lots of comments about how expensive inputs are for spring planting.

NORMAN: Livestock in good condition with plenty of feed. Cold temperatures helped firm up feeding areas but have been harsh on calving. Good snow cover over all fields. Farmers are working on cash flows and hauling grain.

PENNINGTON: Temperatures in the -20 F range last week, but back into the 20's this week. Snow cover on fields is adequate and livestock have been wintering well.

PINE: Livestock doing well. One to four inch snow cover. Quite a bit of uncertainty in planting plans. Farm sales starting.

PIPESTONE: Cattlemen still pasturing cows on open cornstalk fields. Still a few fields of corn to be harvested. Chances are that they will be there well into spring due to the mild winter. Will wait for the ground to firm up. Reports from elevators that corn being brought in that was stored on-ground is poor and quality is damaged.

RICE: Four to six inches of snow cover. Feed supplies remain adequate. Livestock doing well throughout the winter. Farmers gearing up for another planting season.

ROSEAU: After a very mild winter, temperatures have returned to normal. We have good snow cover and livestock are doing very well. Many producers are struggling to put together a positive cash flow for 2006 that are realistic.

SIBLEY: Weather has been good. Very little snow cover.

TODD: Overall the weather for the month of February has been colder than average. Snowfall and snow melt have about balanced each other out for the month with the average snow cover ranging from 3 to 8 inches. Livestock conditions have been good so far.

WADENA: We have 8 inches to 1 foot of snow at this time. Livestock feed is in good supply. Livestock are doing well. Producers are getting ready for calving.

WATONWAN: No big snow storms in February. A couple days of very cold weather the first part of the month. Livestock are doing good.

WRIGHT: Mild winter conditions continue after a brief arctic spell. Livestock are faring well, with a few animals suffering from the damp, cool conditions. Producers are looking forward to spring and are curious how the ground will work up, as there is minimal frost in the fields.

Thank you for your comments.

Greg Kimmet
Agricultural Statistician

Douglas A. Hartwig
Director

PRECIPITATION AND TEMPERATURE SUMMARY FOR JANUARY, 2006:

Temperatures during January averaged from 14.5 degrees above normal in the Northeast District to 17.8 degrees above normal in the Northwest District. Temperature extremes included a low of -13 degrees at International Falls, and a high of 53 degrees at Winona. Precipitation averaged from 0.72 inch below normal in the West Central District to 0.07 inch below normal in the South Central District. Greatest monthly precipitation of 1.94 inches was recorded in Rosemount.

Precipitation and Temperature Summary for January 2006

	Temperature				Precipitation	
	High	Low	Month Ave	Dept. for Month	Month Total	Dept. for Month
<u>NW DIST 1</u>						
Crookston	41	-7	22.5	18.7	.37	-.17
Moorhead	40	-3	23.5	16.7	.39	-.37
Warroad	44	-12	19.9	17.9	.88	.25
<u>NC DIST 2</u>						
Grand Rapids	49	-4	24.5	18.1	.42	-.59
Intl. Falls	44	-13	18.8	16.1	.83	-.01
Itasca	43	-8	21.6	18.7	.43	-.47
<u>NE DIST 3</u>						
Duluth	45	-5	23.8	15.4	.48	-.64
Grand Marais	44	2	26.1	12.2	.70	-.02
Hibbing	45	-11	21.1	15.8	.22	-.57
<u>WC DIST 4</u>						
Alexandria	43	-1	23.9	16.0	.39	-.62
Browns Valley	47	-1	24.6	14.9	.10	-.74
Canby	48	7	27.6	13.9	.20	-.68
Fergus Falls	41	3	23.5	17.1	.14	-.85
Montevideo	44	-1	26.0	16.0	.18	-.73
Morris	40	-3	22.9	14.5	.17	-.68
<u>CENT DIST 5</u>						
Becker	45	1	25.6	16.8	.23	-.63
Collegeville	46	3	27.4	16.7	.22	-.69
Hutchinson	43	2	26.6	16.6	.09	-.68
Olivia	42	-2	24.6	14.5	.10	-.48
St. Cloud	44	-2	25.3	16.5	.34	-.42
Staples	43	-5	22.2	15.9	.26	-.69
Willmar	41	-3	24.4	15.5	.06	-.76
<u>EC DIST 6</u>						
Aitkin	47	-2	25.4	18.4	.56	-.47
Forest Lake	50	2	27.3	16.9	.60	-.38
MSP Airport	48	5	28.6	15.5	.70	-.34
St. Paul - UofM	48	6	29.0	14.2	.64	-.38
<u>SW DIST 7</u>						
Lamberton	47	2	27.8	15.7	.19	-.46
Pipestone	44	8	26.2	15.0	.77	.22
Redwood Falls	45	2	26.6	13.6	.30	-.40
Worthington	48	10	27.4	16.0	.40	-.30
<u>SC DIST 8</u>						
Faribault	47	4	26.7	15.1	1.07	.02
Mankato	48	5	28.0	15.5	1.02	-.05
Waseca	43	0	26.2	15.2	1.04	-.34
Winnebago	45	4	27.2	15.0	.97	.09
<u>SE DIST 9</u>						
Preston	51	5	28.1	15.4	.43	-.58
Red Wing	49	4	28.0	16.0	1.09	.28
Rochester	46	5	28.2	16.4	.30	-.64
Rosemount	43	-1	26.0	15.9	1.94	.72
Winona	53	8	30.6	14.9	.52	-.42

m=some data missing

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MINNESOTA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
PO Box 7068, ST. PAUL MN 55107
MONTHLY NEWS REPORT
Minnesota Crop-Weather Report
Publication No. 387190
Address Service Requested